

SENATE RESOLUTION 13—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE SHOULD REBID THE 2022 WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES TO BE HOSTED BY A COUNTRY THAT RECOGNIZES AND RESPECTS HUMAN RIGHTS

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. COTTON, Mr. INHOFE, and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 13

Whereas the International Olympic Committee announced Beijing, People's Republic of China, as the host city of the 2022 Winter Olympic Games;

Whereas the Olympic charter states that the goal of Olympism is to promote "a peaceful society concerned with the preservation of human dignity";

Whereas, on January 19, 2021, the Department of State determined that the Communist Party of China has committed genocide against the predominantly Muslim Uyghurs and other ethnic and religious minority groups in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR);

Whereas the 2020 Trafficking in Persons Report of the Department of State relating to the People's Republic of China indicates that—

(1) authorities in the People's Republic of China have arbitrarily detained more than 1,000,000 ethnic Muslims, including Uyghur, ethnic Kazakh, and Kyrgyz individuals, in as many as 1,200 "vocational training centers", which are internment camps designed to erase ethnic and religious identities;

(2) the national household registry system of the People's Republic of China restricts the freedom of rural inhabitants to legally change their workplace or residence, placing the internal migrant population of the People's Republic of China at high risk of forced labor in brick kilns, coal mines, and factories;

(3) the Government of the People's Republic of China subjects Christians and members of other religious groups to forced labor in brick kilns, food processing centers, and factories as part of detention for the purpose of ideological indoctrination; and

(4) the Government of the People's Republic of China provides financial incentives for companies to open factories near the internment camps, and local governments receive additional funds from the Government of the People's Republic of China for each inmate forced to work in an internment camp;

Whereas, in June 2020, the Associated Press reported that—

(1) the Government of the People's Republic of China uses forced birth control, sterilizations, and abortions on Uyghur and other minority women to diminish the birth rate among Muslim populations; and

(2) Uyghur and other minority women are subjected to internment camps and large fines for giving birth to too many children, which is subjectively defined by the Government of the People's Republic of China;

Whereas, in October 2019, Radio Free Asia reported that—

(1) the Government of the People's Republic of China, as part of its Pair Up and Become Family program, assigns male Han Chinese "relatives" to monitor the homes of Uyghur families in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and to regularly sleep in the same beds as the wives of men detained in the internment camps of the region; and

(2) Uyghur individuals who protest hosting "relatives" or refuse to take part in study sessions or other activities with the officials in their homes are subject to additional restrictions and may face detention in the internment camps;

Whereas, in July 2019, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom jointly condemned the arbitrary detention and surveillance of Uyghur individuals and other minorities in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region;

Whereas, in June 2019, the Independent Tribunal Into Forced Organ Harvesting from Prisoners of Conscience in China of the China Tribunal found that—

(1) forced organ harvesting has been carried out for years throughout the People's Republic of China on a significant scale, and practitioners of Falun Gong have been the main source of organs; and

(2) the Government of the People's Republic of China has committed crimes against humanity with respect to Uyghur individuals and practitioners of Falun Gong;

Whereas the report of Freedom House entitled "Freedom in the World 2019" indicates that—

(1) women, ethnic and religious minorities, and the LGBT community in the People's Republic of China have no opportunity to gain meaningful political representation and are barred from advancing their interests outside the formal structures of the Communist Party of China;

(2) foreign journalists in the People's Republic of China were surveilled, harassed, physically abused, detained to prevent meetings with certain individuals, and had their visas withheld;

(3) hundreds of Falun Gong practitioners have recently received long prison terms, and many other individuals were arbitrarily detained in various "legal education" facilities, where they were tortured, sometimes fatally, until they abandoned their beliefs;

(4) limitations on due process in the People's Republic of China, including the excessive use of pretrial detention, are rampant, and an extended crackdown on human rights lawyers has weakened the access of defendants to independent legal counsel; and

(5) individuals attempting to petition the Government of the People's Republic of China with respect to grievances or injustices are routinely intercepted in their efforts to travel to Beijing, forcefully returned to their hometowns, or subjected to extra-legal detention in "black jails", psychiatric institutions, and other sites at which they are at risk of abuse;

Whereas the annual report of the U.S. Congressional-Executive Commission on China for 2019 indicates that—

(1) the one-party authoritarian political system of the People's Republic of China deprives the people of the People's Republic of China of their right to meaningfully participate in electoral processes and public life generally;

(2) in 2019, the Government of the People's Republic of China detained and prosecuted individuals who criticized government officials and policies online and censored or distorted a range of news and information that the Government of the People's Republic of China considered "politically sensitive", including—

(A) the 30th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre;

(B) human rights abuses in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region; and

(C) the protests in Hong Kong against proposed extradition legislation;

(3) Hong Kong authorities, under the influence of the Government of the People's Republic of China, violated fundamental freedoms of the people of Hong Kong, as articulated in the Basic Law, including the freedoms of expression, association, and assembly;

(4) the Government of the People's Republic of China has used propaganda, disinformation, and censorship in an attempt to shape reporting on the Hong Kong protests, attributing the protests to influence by "foreign forces", and threatening protesters in Hong Kong;

(5) officials of the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Communist Party of China continue to abuse criminal law and police power to punish critics and "maintain stability" with the goal of perpetuating one-party rule, often targeting human rights advocates, religious believers, and ethnic minority groups; and

(6) the Government of the People's Republic of China is likely committing crimes against humanity;

Whereas, before the 2008 Summer Olympics were held in Beijing, the Department of State Country Report on Human Rights Practices for 2006 reported that the Government of the People's Republic of China practiced severe cultural and religious repression of minorities, especially of Uyghur individuals in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, and according to the Department of State Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2018, such repression has intensified since the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing;

Whereas four Special Rapporteurs of the United Nations have urged the governing authorities in Hong Kong and the People's Republic of China to ensure protestors in Hong Kong may fully exercise the right to peacefully assemble, including—

(1) the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression;

(2) the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders;

(3) the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; and

(4) the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

Whereas police in Hong Kong have arrested more than 6,000 individuals and fired more than 16,000 rounds of tear gas during the seven months of protests by people of Hong Kong seeking to uphold their liberties and the autonomy of Hong Kong, as articulated in the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (referred to in this preamble as the "Basic Law");

Whereas, the Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (referred to in this preamble as the "Hong Kong national security law") is implemented to suppress pro-democracy demonstrators and remove the rights and liberties from the people of Hong Kong guaranteed in the Basic Law;

Whereas the report of the Network of Chinese Human Rights Defenders entitled "Defending Rights in a 'No Rights Zone': Annual Report on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders in China (2018)" indicates that—

(1) authorities in the People's Republic of China continue to charge Tibetans with "inciting separatism" for expressing political or religious dissent and impose heavy prison sentences on such individuals;

(2) the Government of the People's Republic of China continues to implement its draconian 2017 cybersecurity law, which authorizes invasive cyber surveillance and provides

broad authority to restrict and penalize on-line expression;

(3) the Government of the People's Republic of China intends to have "full coverage, connectivity, and control" of the entire People's Republic of China by police video surveillance; and

(4) the Government of the People's Republic of China boldly retaliates against human rights advocates for their work upholding international standards and cooperating with the United Nations human rights mechanisms;

Whereas, in January 2020, the editorial board of The Washington Post questioned whether the People's Republic of China should "be allowed to host the 2022 Winter Olympics in one city while running concentration camps in another"; and

Whereas the flagrant human rights abuses committed by the Government of the People's Republic of China are inconsistent with Olympic values: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate supports the values of Olympism and the principles of Team USA with respect to the protection of—

(A) the rights, safety, and well-being of athletes; and

(B) the integrity of sport; and

(2) it is the sense of the Senate that, consistent with the principles of the International Olympic Committee, unless the Government of the People's Republic of China demonstrates significant progress in securing fundamental human rights, including the freedoms of religion, speech, movement, association, and assembly, the International Olympic Committee should rebid the 2022 Winter Olympics to be hosted by a country that recognizes and respects human rights.

SENATE RESOLUTION 14—DESIGNATING JANUARY 23, 2021, AS "MATERNAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY"

Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 14

Whereas, every year in the United States, approximately 700 women die as a result of complications related to pregnancy and childbirth;

Whereas the pregnancy-related mortality ratio, defined as the number of pregnancy-related deaths per 100,000 live births, more than doubled between 1987 and 2017;

Whereas the United States is the only developed country whose maternal mortality rate has increased over the last several decades;

Whereas, of all pregnancy-related deaths between 2011 and 2016—

(1) nearly 32 percent occurred during pregnancy;

(2) about 35 percent occurred during childbirth or the week after childbirth; and

(3) 33 percent occurred between 1 week and 1 year postpartum;

Whereas more than 60 percent of maternal deaths in the United States are preventable;

Whereas, in 2014 alone, 50,000 women suffered from a "near miss" or severe maternal morbidity, which includes potentially life-threatening complications that arise from labor and childbirth;

Whereas around 17 percent of women who gave birth in a hospital in the United States reported experiencing 1 or more types of mistreatment, such as—

(1) loss of autonomy;

(2) being shouted at, scolded, or threatened; and

(3) being ignored or refused or receiving no response to requests for help;

Whereas certain social determinants of health, including bias and racism, have a negative impact on maternal health outcomes;

Whereas significant disparities in maternal health exist, including that—

(1) Black women are more than 3 times as likely to die from a pregnancy-related cause as are White women;

(2) American Indian and Alaska Native women are more than twice as likely to die from a pregnancy-related cause as are White women;

(3) Black, American Indian, and Alaska Native women with at least some college education are more likely to die from a pregnancy-related cause than are women of all other racial and ethnic backgrounds with less than a high school diploma;

(4) Black, American Indian, and Alaska Native women are about twice as likely to suffer from severe maternal morbidity as are White women;

(5) women who live in rural areas have a greater likelihood of severe maternal morbidity and mortality compared to women who live in urban areas;

(6) less than ½ of rural counties have a hospital with obstetric services;

(7) counties with more Black and Hispanic residents and lower median incomes are less likely to have access to hospital obstetric services;

(8) more than 50 percent of women who live in a rural area must travel more than 30 minutes to access hospital obstetric services, compared to 7 percent of women who live in urban areas; and

(9) American Indian and Alaska Native women living in rural communities are twice as likely as their White counterparts to report receiving late or no prenatal care;

Whereas pregnant women may be at increased risk for severe outcomes associated with COVID-19, as—

(1) pregnant women with symptomatic COVID-19 are more likely to be admitted to an intensive care unit, receive invasive ventilation, and receive ECMO treatment, compared to nonpregnant women with symptomatic COVID-19;

(2) pregnant women with symptomatic COVID-19 are at a 70-percent increased risk for death compared to nonpregnant women with symptomatic COVID-19; and

(3) pregnant women with COVID-19 may be at risk for preterm delivery;

Whereas more than 40 States have designated committees to review maternal deaths;

Whereas State and local maternal mortality review committees are positioned to comprehensively assess maternal deaths and identify opportunities for prevention;

Whereas more than 30 States are participating in the Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health, which promotes consistent and safe maternity care to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality;

Whereas community-based maternal health care models, including midwifery childbirth services, doula support services, community and perinatal health worker services, and group prenatal care, in collaboration with culturally competent physician care, show great promise in improving maternal health outcomes and reducing disparities in maternal health outcomes;

Whereas many organizations have implemented initiatives to educate patients and providers about—

(1) all causes of, contributing factors to, and disparities in maternal mortality;

(2) the prevention of pregnancy-related deaths; and

(3) the importance of listening to and empowering all women to report pregnancy-related medical issues; and

Whereas several States, communities, and organizations recognize January 23 as "Maternal Health Awareness Day" to raise awareness about maternal health and promote maternal safety: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates January 23, 2021, as "Maternal Health Awareness Day";

(2) supports the goals and ideals of Maternal Health Awareness Day, including—

(A) raising public awareness about maternal mortality, maternal morbidity, and disparities in maternal health outcomes; and

(B) encouraging the Federal Government, States, territories, Tribes, local communities, public health organizations, physicians, health care providers, and others to take action to reduce adverse maternal health outcomes and improve maternal safety;

(3) promotes initiatives—

(A) to address and eliminate disparities in maternal health outcomes; and

(B) to ensure respectful and equitable maternity care practices;

(4) honors those who have passed away as a result of pregnancy-related causes; and

(5) supports and recognizes the need for further investments in efforts to improve maternal health, eliminate disparities in maternal health outcomes, and promote respectful and equitable maternity care practices.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 3—AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL FOR THE LYING IN STATE OF THE REMAINS OF THE LAST MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT OF WORLD WAR II, IN ORDER TO HONOR THE GREATEST GENERATION AND THE MORE THAN 16,000,000 MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES FROM 1941 TO 1945

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. ROMNEY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. CON. RES. 3

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. HONORING THE LAST SURVIVING MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT OF WORLD WAR II.

(a) USE OF ROTUNDA.—The individual who is the last surviving recipient of the Medal of Honor for acts performed during World War II shall be permitted to lie in state in the rotunda of the Capitol upon death, if the individual (or the next of kin of the individual) so elects.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Architect of the Capitol, under the direction of the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall take the necessary steps to implement subsection (a).

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I have a request for one committee to meet during today's session of the Senate. It has the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.